

## Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 RSR-01 /096 W

----- 004541

R 231656 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9169

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

USMISSION USUN

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

UNCLAS CARACAS 2520

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN PN VE

SUBJECT: REACTION TO US VETO AT UNSC MEETING IN PANAMA

1. ASKED ABOUT US VETO AGAINST PANAMA CANAL RESOLUTION IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL, PRESIDENT CALDERA AT REGULAR WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 22 CHARACTERIZED VETO AS " AN INSTITUTION WHICH IN PRINCIPLE WE ALWAYS CONSIDER UNFAVORABLY. IT IS A PRAGMATIC CONCESSION WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE FOUNDING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE GREAT POWERS SO THAT THEY WOULD ACCEPT A PARLIAMENT OR INTERNATIONAL FORUM WHERE SMALLER COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE A MAJORITY OF VOTES. IN THIS CASE IT WAS TO A DEGREE PREDICTABLE ALTHOUGH IN NO WAY DESIRABLE..." CALDERA SAID WHATEVER INTERPRETATION OF VETO, POINT OF PANAMA MEETING IS THAT PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN SET FORTH THAT A NEW TREATY SHOULD BE CONCLUDED AND THAT PANAMA'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER ALL ITS TERRITORY INCLUDING CANAL AREA SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED. HE SAID ALTHOUGH MATTER IS BILATERAL, AND AGREEMENTS OF TWO STATES SHOULD APPLY. SMALLER OF TWO STATES INVOLVED HAS RECEIVED GREAT BACKING OF ALL LA COUNTRIES AND REST OF WORLD REPRESENTED IN UNSC SO THAT ITS CLAIMS CAN HAVE WEIGHT IN NEGOTIATIONS AND " A FORMULA WHICH CORRESPONDS TO SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE AND VITAL INTERESTS OF A SISTER NATION CAN BE ACHIEVED".

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2. MEANWHILE, VENEZUELAN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES (CONTRESS' LOWER HOUSE) AGREED MARCH 22 ON RESOLUTION BACKING PANAMA ON CANAL AND CONDEMNING STAND OF SOME US CONGRESSMEN ON CANAL QUESTION. RESOLUTION ALSO BACKED PEOPLES' RIGHTS AGAINST COLONIALISM, LA DENUCLEARIZED ZONE ACCORDING TO TREATY OF TLATELOLCO, COMMON CAUSE WITH LA NATIONS AGAINST OTHER POWERS AND UNSC RESOLUTION TO TAKE STEPS AGAINST ACTS OF CORPORATIONS WHICH DELIBERATELY TRY TO COERCE LA COUNTRIES.

3. SPEECHES ON ISSUE BY VENEZUELAN CONGRESSMEN INCLUDING THOSE OF GOVERNMENT PARTY HAVE STRONGLY AND OFTEN INTEMPERATELY BACKED PANAMA AGAINST US AND NONE HAS RAISED VOICE IN FAVOR OF US POSITION.

MCCLINTOCK

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Subject:** REACTION TO US VETO AT UNSC MEETING IN PANAMA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PN, VE, UN  
**To:** ARA  
PANAMA  
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